

Andrew Jackson to Francis Preston Blair, March 11, 1837, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO FRANCIS P. BLAIR.

Flintstone, Md. , March 11, 1837.

My dear Blair, We arrived here this evening over bad roads, altho a turn pike, nothing appurtaining to it but the toll gates, all the metal having disappeared, and the road cut up by the heavy waggons—still we are moving on with as much expedition as the kind greetings of my friends and fellow citizens will permit. I parted with the last escort from Hancock on the mountain to day, and hope my friends in Pennsylvania will permit me to pass on without parade; for I assure you, altho nothing gives me more pleasure, or can add more to my gratitude, than the approbation of my fellow citizens, retireing from office as I am, still my strength, and feeble health will not permit me to receive their congratulations as I ought. altho I cannot say that my health has been much impaired by the fatigue I have underwent, still, I feel a great feebleness.

Our dear little Rachel was very sick yesterday, but our excellent Doctor, Lawson, administered to her last night and she is much better to night, and I hope will be quite well tomorrow. The dear little creature, has been constantly talking about mrs. Blair and lisey,¹ as she calls your dear daughter. say to Mrs. Blair what comfort she has bestowed upon me by the present she made me of those admirable stockings. My dear daughter, and the dear little ones, with all my houshold, tender to you, and your amiable family our kind salutations and prayers for your welfare and happiness in this world, and then a happy immortality, to which I add mine.

Library of Congress

1 Elizabeth Blair was called Elisa by her friends. The stockings mentioned below are often referred to by Jackson in his letters to Blair.

Do not forget to send me the reports of the investigating committees as soon as printed. I wish them as soon as I get home, together with the journals of the proceedings of the committees, and those letters of Mr. Ficklin etc. I see from Payton and Wise garbled statement of the testimony in the intelligencer, he intends it to make a false impression on the public mind, which must be counteracted by a full statement of the whole matter and the baseness of the attempt to delude the people fairly set forth. Say to Mr. Whitney he ought to come out with his own expose soon, read the statement in the Intelligencer. . . . [*mutilated*]